NO. 27.

BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

January 16 to 31, 1910.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

AMYGDALUS DAVIDIANA. 26604. From Tientsin, China. Procured thru Mr. Hamilton Butler. Mr. Meyer in describing a previous introduction of this plant says: "Very resistant to droughts and alkali. The Chinese use this tree as a grafting stock for their flowering peaches and prunes; also for small bush-cherries and apricots."

AMYGDALUS PERSICA. 26593. Presented by Mr. Wm. W. Masterson, Consul, Harput, Turkey. This peach is rather large, has an excellent flavor, with the ordinary stone and the usual shape of a peach, but it has a smooth, tough skin of a mottled red and green color like an apple, without the slightest sign of fuzz. It is a little larger than the average shipping peach of America, grows on the same kind of a tree, and is not a budded or hybrid fruit, but grown from seed." (Masterson.) Doubtless a nectarine. For distribution later.

AMYGDALUS. 26543. From mountainous regions of Algeria, height about 3300 feet. Presented by Dr. Trabut. "A wild form of tolerably large size, robust and very resistant to drought; would be a good stock." (Trabut.) For distribution later.

ANDROPOGON CARICOSUS. 26581. From Antigua, Leeward Islands. Presented by Mr. S. Jackson. "Hay grass. This is an East Indian grass and is found only in Antigua in the West Indies. The history of its introduction is obscure. It is readily established and once this is done, takes possession of the land to the exclusion of other grasses. It grows on flat pasture areas and when cut at the right time makes excellent hay." (Agricultural News, May 1, 1909.)

ANONA CHERIMOLA. 26603. Presented by Mr. C.P. Taft, Orange, California. "This variety came originally from London; it is a splendid large fruit and a fine and abundant bearer."

ARALIA CORDATA. 26565. Kan Udo, a Japanese vegetable, from Chevy Chase, Md. Grown by Mr. David Fairchild on his place, 'In the Woods'. See B.P.I. Bull. No. 42 for description.

BRASSICA. 26563-564. Two varieties of Chinese cabbage, or Pe'tsai, from Manchuria, one from Kinehow, the other from Chefoo. Presented by Mr. A. A. Williamson.

CITRUS TRIFOLIATA. 26561. Purchased from the Yokohama Nursery Co. From Kiushiu Prof. Ikeda says the northern limit of this tree is 37° N. latitude. The fruits from Kiushiu are larger than those produced in Yokohama.
CITRUS SP. 26568. Yuzu. Yuzu is a large, evergreen tree, bearing round, medium sized fruit which is very acid and has a coarse, thick rind. The fruit is used in Japan in place of the lemon. In some sections of Japan the Yuzu is considered better than Citrus trifoliata, as trees grafted on it grow better and live longer than those grafted on C. trifoliata. For distribution later.

CYDONIA SP. 26562. Presented by Rev. J.M.W. Farnham, Shanghai, China. "These quinces grow very large but are coarser and harder than American varieties. The one from which part of these seeds was taken was 12 inches in circumference and about 5 in. long." (Farnham.) For distribution later.

ELAEGNUS ANGUSTIFOLIA. 26594 (large-fruited) and 26595 (small-fruited.) From Wm. W. Masterson, Consul, Harput, Turkey. Trebizond date. "This grows in clusters to a height of 8 or 10 feet. In the spring it has a wonderfully fragrant blossom and in the autumn a fruit that looks very much like the commercial date; altho not so rich and sweet it is edible. They are rapid growers and used in this country for hedges. The idea I particularly have in mind in mentioning this plant is its superiority as a hedge over the Osage orange." (Masterson.)

LATHYRUS PARVIFOLIUS. 26607. From Sierra Madre Mountains, Cal. Presented by Mr. John Leenhouts. "I have seen these

vines grow to a length of 40 feet. They seem to sprout from the roots every year and grow here plentifully over an area of, I would say, 160 acres. They seem to have originated on one of the mountain sides and been washed down by the rains until you find them half a mile down the foot-hills." (Leenhouts.)

MANGIFERA INDICA. 26509-510. Presented by Mr. Aston W. Gardner, Kingston, Jamaica. 26509, Bombay. This special fruit has realized very high prices in London and New York. 26510, Mangalore. For distribution later.

MEDICAGO SATIVA TUNETANA. 26590. From Aures, Algeria. Procured by Mr. A. Clave. "A wild form said to occur in arid, exposed situations and presumably very drought resistant." (Westgate.)

PUNICA PROTOPUNICA. 26511. Presented by Dr. Isaac Bayley Balfour, Director Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, Scotland. Native of the Island of Socotra. "It was considered desirable to introduce this plant which, aside from the ordinary pomegranate is the only species of the genus Punica and is possibly the ancestral form of the cultivated pomegranate, in order to test its value as a drought resistant stock on which to graft pomegranates in the hottest part of the Southwest." (T. H. Kearney.)

PYRUS SP. 26591. Presented by Mr. Edward C. Parker, Mukden, Manchuria. "Seeds of the native Manchurian pear. I am of the opinion that the pear seedlings when tested out in western nurseries or used for grafting purposes will prove more valuable than the scions (S.P.I. Nos. 26485-489.) (Parker.) For distribution later.

SPONDIAS DULCIS. 26470. From Monrovia, Liberia. Presented by Mr. E. L. Parker. The We fruit or Tahiti apple. The tree is of rapid growth, highly ornamental and attains a height of 50 feet in its native habitat. The golden yellow fruits about 2-3 inches in diameter, are produced in loose clusters. The brownish yellow flesh partakes of the flavor of a pineapple and most people become very fond of it when once accustomed to it. It is a trifle less hardy than the

mango to which it is related." (Wester.) For distribution later.

VICIA FABA. 26596. From Wm. W. Masterson, Consul, Harput, Turkey. "This is called Bakla in Turkish. The stalks are fed to cows and are said to be wonderful milk producers and also to be an exceedingly cooling feed for horses during the summer. They are not as good as our best beans as a vegetable, but they are a month earlier than the ordinary bunch beans and tho rather strong in flavor and coarse, are in great demand among these people." (Masterson.)

VIGNA UNGUICULATA. 26592. Cowpea from Millard, Ark. Presented by Mr. J.L. Forlines. "Similar to Taylor Crowder, but with the micropylar end white. The original seed said to have been found in the craw of a wild goose." (Piper.)

VITIS VINIFERA. 26605-606. From England. Presented by Rev. W. Wilks, Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society of England. The two numbers are from two different regions. "This was sent to us from India many, many years ago. It is a very strong grower. The berries are individually small; they are black and seedless, one seed in perhaps 1,000 berries, and of a nice, refreshing juiciness. In pruning Black Monukka it must not be cut quite back to last year's wood as we do all other grapes, but must have 2 or possibly 3 eyes left on the sub-branch, as it seems never to send out a spray of blossoms from the first eye as other grapes do." (Wilks.) "My attention was attracted to this new seedless grape last summer while on a visit to the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at Wisley. It will, I believe, compete with the Sultana rosea in California. (Fairchild.)

VITIS VINIFERA. 26566. From Besni, Turkey. Procured by Mr. Wm. W. Masterson, Consul. "I have never tasted such grapes anywhere as I have here and the raisins made from these particular grapes (Besni) are of a wonderfully fine flavor and very large, and I think if such vines could be cultivated in America it would prove a wonderful addition to our grape industry." (Masterson.) Two varieties, white and black. For distribution later.

Following is a lot of seeds sent in by Mrs. F. A. Shepard, Adana, Turkey-in-Asia. They are from the moister mountain regions lying 25-30 miles from the Mediterranean, 3000-4000 feet above sea-level, in lime and sandy soils.

AVENA SATIVA. 26570.
LATHYRUS SP. 26572.
MEDICAGO ORBICULARIS MARGINATA. 26573.
PISTACIA TEREBINTHUS. 26571.
TRIFOLIUM PILULARE. 26574. TRIFOLIUM SPP. 26575-578.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

MEXICO. Oaxaca. F. Foex, Jan. 13. Is writing a bulletin on the Sapotaceae of Mexico which he will send when finished. Sends seeds of Lucuma salicifolia, a fruit exceedingly rare outside of Mexico. It is a beautiful tree which resists cold nearly as well as the orange, but matures only in very warm countries. The fruit is not very good; tastes a little like laudanum, and makes one sleep if he takes too much of it.

NORTH AFRICA, Tripoli-in Barbary. A. E. Saunders, Consul, Jan. 10. Is sending 150 lbs. of Susfa seed; a fodder plant of that region which grows about 4 feet high.

NORWAY, Naesden. Lars Hvinden, Jan. 6. Is sending samples of Molsted and Toten clovers. Molsted is the best Norwegian clover. The Toten clover can also stand the hard winters 3 or 4 years, but it gives only one crop in the summer. Molsted can some times be cut twice in the summer and autumn.

PANAMA, Castilla. S. P. Verner, Jan. 8. Describes a tree called Malagetto. The bark makes excellent rope and the seed is used by natives as cocaine or opium. Says he has also found a vine which yields good rubber from the bark and also from the woody fiber.

PERU, Callao. V. M. McCoombs, Dec. 31. Is sending a sample of a rare potato 'Papa amarillo', or the yellow potato. It grows in the highlands along with barley, corn and wheat.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, Manila. Wm. S. Lyon, Dec. 27. Thinks lumbang (Aleurites moluccana) the most valuable complete organic fertilizer he has ever used, besides its value as an oil producer. The Chinese get $100. gold per ton for the press cake as fertilizer. Once or twice a week every one of the 4-5000 well-to-do Filipino families who have a score or more of potted house or yard plants send their 'muchachos' to the mills for a 2 lb. biscuit of lumbang cake, price 20 centavos (10c gold), and so great is the demand that a hundred pounds cannot be had except by reservation. Sends two rices - one a black variety, only a curio, the other a fragrant rice, so fragrant that he thought at first it had deen doped with some cheap perfume and refused to eat it, but when he found it was natural, grew to be quite fond of it.

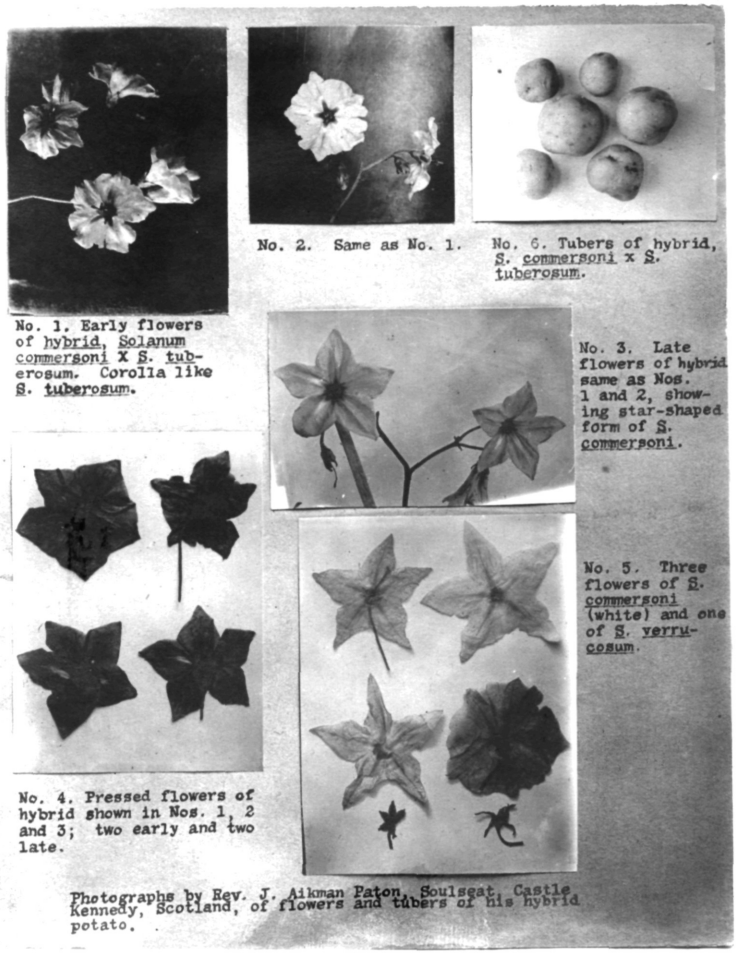
SCOTLAND, Soulseat, Castle Kennedy. J. Aikman Paton, Jan. 10. Sends a printed report regarding some of his hybrid Solanums together with photographs of tubers and blooms.

SPAIN, Oporto. Baron de Santellinho, Jan. 14. Will send plants of Rosea gigantea. Describes a hybrid of this with R. Reina Marie Henriette which is large and of a rich orange yellow.

REPORT FROM FRANK N. MEYER, AGRICULTURAL EXPLORER.

Mr. Meyer has finally been allowed by the Russian authorities to continue his journey to Turkestan. He describes a new fodder grass from the Samara Government which is a perennial Triticum and has not the objectionable running rhizomes of T. repens; a new white millet (Panicum miliaceum) from which a fine, white flour is made, used for baking purposes, also a good new variety of red millet. Jan. 13 writes from Sebastopol and sends cuttings of privet, jasmine, crataegus, pyrus, salix and morus alba, which will be numbered and described in the next bulletin. Describes a new variety of Helianthus annuus, the seeds of which are covered with a

hard substance so that beetles cannot injure them; a new variety of cabbage from Bulgaria giving a good stand where ordinary kinds do not grow and needing much less space than the common cabbages. Intended leaving next day to go to Nikita to collect hardy olives and other things. (These olives have since been received and will be described in the next bulletin.) Jan. 18 writes from Yalta, Crimea, sending seeds of 4 annual species of Medicagos and roots of two perennial ones. These will be identified and identifications published later.



No. 1. Early flowers of hybrid, Solanum commersoni X S. tuberosum. Corolla like S. tuberosum.

No. 2. Same as No. 1.

No. 6. Tubers of hybrid, S. commersoni x S. tuberosum.

No. 3. Late flowers of hybrid same as Nos. 1 and 2, showing star-shaped form of S. commersoni.

No. 4. Pressed flowers of hybrid shown in Nos. 1, 2 and 3; two early and two late.

No. 5. Three flowers of S. commersoni (white) and one of S. verrucosum.

Photographs by Rev. J. Aikman Paton, Soulseat, Castle Kennedy, Scotland, of flowers and tubers of his hybrid potato.